

Forensic Science

Course Syllabus; 2014 - 2015

WELCOME TO FORENSIC SCIENCE!!! ☺

I am very excited to have you in my class this year. Here is a look at what we will be doing (in no particular order):

Topic Title
Introduction & Safety
History of Forensics
Deductive Reasoning
Crime Scene Documentation
Fingerprinting
Serology
Forgery & Counterfeiting
Impressions
Hair & Fibers
Ballistics & Glass Analysis
Toxicology
Arson Analysis
Soil Analysis
DNA Evidence
Suspect Descriptions/Interviewing
Entomology
Electronic Crime

Your responsibilities for this class are:

1. To follow the classroom policy.
2. To study and work to the best of your ability.
3. To take care of your handouts.
4. To learn how to be a CSI and work as a team.
5. To have a great time!

Homework: You will receive homework for almost every class. Homework will include Crimes on File, in which you will read about a crime or a criminal and answer a few questions. Homework may also include worksheets, but will more likely be working on lab reports and solutions to cases.

Crime Scenes:

You will have a different crime scene for each topic/unit. Due to space limitations, these crime scenes may be temporary. If we can set up outside, we will, even in the middle of winter...so be prepared!

You will be given numerous labs on each topic in order to learn the techniques. Sometimes, there will be a homework assignment or lab write-up associated with these labs. Many times, the labs will incorporate mini crime scenes. Once you are able to complete the techniques to the teacher's satisfaction, you will be given a comprehensive crime scene that tests your abilities to complete the tasks, work as a team, solve the case, and bring your suspect to justice.

Crime scenes will build in complexity, with each new scene incorporating many (or, in some cases, all) of the techniques you have learned up to that point. Be prepared to show your competency in any technique at any time.

Tests & Quizzes: Midterm & Final exams only.

Approximate Grading:

- Participation & Teamwork: 10%
- Technique Competency: 20%
- Lab Reports: 40%
- Homework: 10%
- Exams: 20%

You are required to have goggles and gloves on at all times during when visiting the crime scenes or working in the lab.